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RESEARCH

Produção de conhecimento acerca das doenças sexualmente transmissíveis na população jovem: pesquisa bibliométrica

The production of knowledge about sexually transmitted diseases in young people: a bibliometric research

La producción de conocimientos acerca de enfermedades de transmisión sexual en los jóvenes: una investigación bibliométrica

Thelma Spindola¹, Maria Regina Reicherte Araujo Pimentel², Agatha Soares de Barros³, Vanessa Queli Franco⁴, Luiz Eduardo da Motta Ferreira⁵

ABSTRACT

Objective: Identifying and characterizing the scientific production of nurses related to young people's vulnerability to sexually transmitted diseases (STD). **Method:** A descriptive cross-sectional study (2009-2013), of type bibliometric research, conducted through the search of publications on the Health Virtual Library and the catalog of theses and dissertations of Brazilian Association of Nursing. The sample consisted of 40 articles, 05 theses and 05 dissertations. **Results:** The most of the publications were carried out by nurses' teachers with doctoral degree. The theme of HIV/aids, focus of health education, field research and qualitative analysis of the findings had greater representativeness in the sample analyzed. **Conclusion:** Although STD have been manifested in young people and the Health Ministry of Brazil showing the increased incidence of HIV/aids in this group, the scientific literature on the subject in the studied timeframe is irregular and reduced. **Descriptors:** Sexually transmitted diseases, Adolescent, Young adult, Bibliometrics.

RESUMO

Objetivo: Identificar e caracterizar a produção científica de enfermeiros relacionada à vulnerabilidade dos jovens às Doenças Sexualmente Transmissíveis. **Método:** Estudo descritivo de recorte transversal (2009-2014), do tipo bibliométrico realizado na Biblioteca Virtual de Saúde e no Catálogo de Teses e dissertações da ABEn. A amostra foi constituída por 40 artigos, 05 teses e 05 dissertações. **Resultados:** Os achados evidenciam que a maioria das publicações foi realizada por enfermeiros docentes com titulação de doutorado. A temática do HIV/Aids, o enfoque da educação para a saúde, a pesquisa de campo e a análise qualitativa dos achados tiveram maior representatividade no conjunto amostral analisado. **Conclusão:** Embora as DST se manifestem na população jovem e documentos do Ministério da Saúde do Brasil evidenciem o aumento da incidência do HIV/aids neste contingente populacional, a produção científica acerca do tema no recorte temporal estudado é irregular e reduzida. **Descritores:** Doenças sexualmente transmissíveis, Adolescente, Adulto jovem, Bibliometria.

RESUMEN

Objetivo: Identificar y caracterizar la producción científica de enfermería relacionada con la vulnerabilidad de los jóvenes con enfermedades de transmisión sexual. **Método:** Es un estudio descriptivo de tipo bibliométrico (2009-2013), de corte transversal realizado en la Biblioteca Virtual de salud y en el catálogo de tesis y disertaciones de la Asociación Brasileña de enfermería. La muestra estuvo compuesta por 40 artículos, 05 tesis y 05 disertaciones. **Resultados:** La mayoría de las publicaciones se llevó a cabo por enfermeras docentes con grado de doctorado. El tema del VIH/SIDA, el enfoque de educación para la salud, la investigación de campo y análisis cualitativo de los resultados tuvieron mayor representatividad en la muestra analizada. **Conclusión:** Aunque las enfermedades de transmisión sexual si manifiestan en los jóvenes y los documentos del Ministerio de salud de Brasil demuestra el aumento de la incidencia de VIH/SIDA en esta población, la literatura científica acerca del tema en el período estudiado es irregular y reducido. **Descriptores:** Enfermedades de transmisión sexual, Adolescente, Adulto jovem, Bibliometria.

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INTRODUCTION

Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) are a public health problem that affects millions of people worldwide. They are associated with the most common diseases that occur in the world and have consequences for health, social and economic.¹

The age group with the highest incidence of sexually transmitted diseases is adolescence, a time of discovery and sexual initiation for most teens, at which time practicing unsafe sex are vulnerable to contracting diseases.² The vulnerability of young people to this type of disease is a result of physiological and anatomical changes that stimulate the onset of sexual activity, often unprotected way. The prevalence of STDs among young people stems from the adoption of risk behavior or the lack of means of prevention and ways of transmission of the same.³

Among the factors that put adolescents and young people more vulnerable to contracting a sexually transmitted infection are the age of onset of sexual activity, incorrect or inconsistent use of condoms and experimentation with alcohol and other drugs.⁴

Considering the epidemiological aspect STDs can pose a serious problem in the reproductive health of young people. Failure to diagnose and treat these diseases at an early stage can lead to complications and serious consequences such as infertility, fetal wastage, ectopic pregnancy, anogenital cancer and premature death, infections in newborns and infants.¹

It is appropriate to point out; however, that sexuality is an intrinsic and fundamental component of the person health of adolescents and young people, and a psychological and social phenomenon influenced by beliefs and personal and family values, moral norms and taboos of society.⁵ study conducted in northeastern Brazil, with young people aged 12 to 21 years, found that teenagers show up quite inhibited when discussing topics such as sexuality, sex and STD/AIDS, and greater ignorance of these subjects compared to young men.⁶

Information regarding the occurrence of sexually transmitted infections among young people is inadequate, particularly among adolescents. However, there is prevalence of these infections among adolescents and young people, with higher occurrence of genital herpes and human papillomavirus HPV.⁷

Considering the vulnerabilities to which they are exposed children, adolescents and youth in the country and that can compromise its full development emerges in 2007 by Presidential Decree 6286, the School Health Program (PSE). This program is a partnership between the Ministries of Health and Education and aims to contribute to the integral development of children, adolescents and young people in the public education network, to improve the quality of life. The PSE is a strategy to develop actions that will bring teachers,

health professionals and students to participate in programs and projects that link health and education.⁸

For the implementation of PSE on the federal, state and municipal management are linked to health and education professionals to integrate and organize their activities. The health promotion and disease prevention are carried out by the staff of Family Health Strategy (FHS), Basic Health Units (BHU) and in partnership with other teachers. One of the actions taken by the PSE is the Health and Prevention in Schools (SPE) that addresses issues such as education for sexual health, reproductive health and STD/AIDS and preventing the use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.⁸

Among health professionals that integrate the FHS and BHU teams has been the nurse who in their competence develops actions related to health education, such as health promotion and disease prevention strategy in population groups such as children, adolescents and youth. In the context of vulnerability to STD was delimited as research question for this research: What is the scientific production of nurses related to the vulnerability of young people with sexually transmitted diseases?

To account for this question the following objectives were defined:

Identify the scientific production of nurses related to the vulnerability of young people to sexually transmitted diseases.

Characterize the scientific production of nurses related to the vulnerability of young people to these diseases.

The study is relevant considering that sexually transmitted diseases are prevalent among young people and can lead to consequences for their sexual and reproductive health. According to the Epidemiological Bulletin data for the last 10 years, the age profile of AIDS cases has changed for young people of both sexes, being observed an increasing trend of AIDS detection rates among young people aged 15 to 24 years old.⁹ In this scenario, recognizing the scientific production of nurses related to the theme may provide a basis for the completion of other studies, outlining the performance of the professional with this group.

METHOD

This is a descriptive and bibliometric study. The bibliometric research is a quantitative and statistical technique for measuring production rates and dissemination of scientific knowledge, and uses quantitative methods to objectively evaluate the scientific production.¹⁰ Bibliometric indicators depict the level of development of an area of knowledge of a field to be known.¹¹

The literature search was conducted from September 2014 to January 2015, the Virtual Health Library (VHL), the databases of the Latin American and Caribbean Health Sciences (LILACS) and the Nursing Database (BDEnf) by search and combination of the words: vulnerability, young, STDs, adolescent health, adolescent, AIDS and young people.

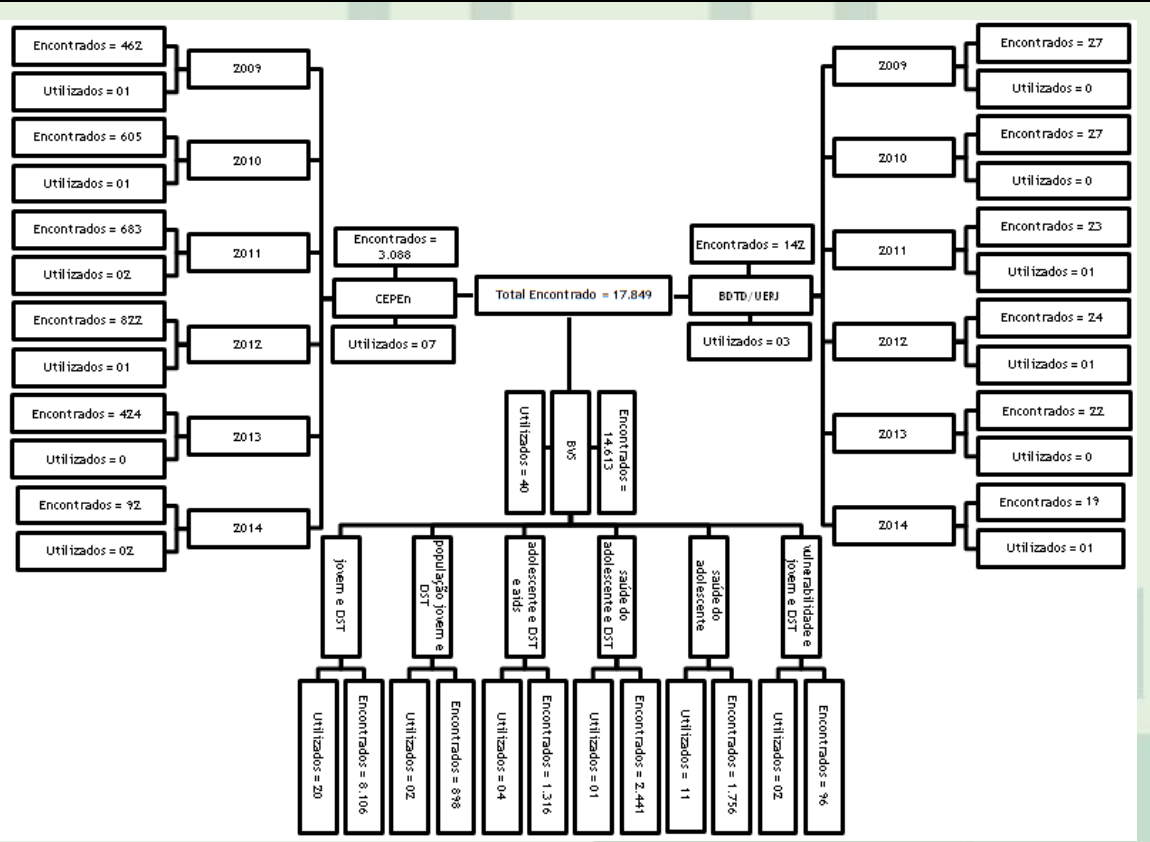
Other sources used were the catalog of Theses and Dissertations of the Brazilian Nursing Association (CEPEn/ABEn) and the Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations of UERJ (BDTD/UERJ), available online.

The inclusion criteria for selection of material were used: full text articles available in the databases, jobs held in the country; Theme approach vulnerability adolescent / young STD and cross-sectional 2009 -2014. Exclusion criteria were repeated in the production databases; theme approached distinct from selected for this study, publications not performed by nurses and other productions such as monographs and books.

To collect the data, we used a form developed by the authors in the following variables were taken: titration of the authors; affiliation; mode of study; methodological approach; thematic study; name of the journal; study site and year of publication.

In search of the VHL were found 14613 products. After inserting the filters, were captured 63 articles that discuss STD theme in the young population during the study period. From this total there were selected products with nurses authors totaling 40 items. In search CEPEn catalog/ABEn were located 3.088 products by selecting up 04 Theses and Dissertations 03; and BDTD had 142 productions were selected 02 dissertations and thesis with 01 adherence to the object of study.

Figure 1. Selection process of inclusion and exclusion of articles, theses and dissertations.



For the organization of the material and data analysis we used simple descriptive statistics in absolute and percentage frequency, using Microsoft Excel 2013 software.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the process of search and selection of the material in the VHL, CEPEn/ABEn and BDTD/UERJ found 50 publications, 40 articles, 5 theses and dissertations 5, which met the inclusion criteria and objectives of the study.

The distribution of the sample set in relation to articles published in the time frame studied shows that from 2009 to 2011 there was a balance in the number of publications with an average of 9 articles/year, however, in the years 2012 and 2013 this quantitative decrease significantly, increasing in 2014 as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Distribution of articles as the journal and year of publication. VHL, 2009-2014.

Journal/Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Total	%
Rev. enferm. UERJ		5		2			7	17,5
REME - Rev. Min. Enferm			3	1		3	7	17,5
Esc Anna Nery Rev Enferm	5	1					6	15,0
J. res.: fundam. care. online			1		1	1	3	7,5
Rev. Eletr. Enf.	2						2	5,0
Revista de Patologia Tropical			2				2	5,0
Ciência & Saúde Coletiva.			1			1	2	5,0
Online braz. j. nurs.	1					1	2	5,0
Arq. Ciênc. Saúde UNIPAR			1				1	2,5
Ciencia Y Enfermeria				1			1	2,5
Cogitare Enferm		1					1	2,5
Rev Gaúcha Enferm		1					1	2,5
Rev. enferm. UFPE		1					1	2,5
Rev. Esc. Enferm. USP.	1						1	2,5
Revista de APS			1				1	2,5
Rev Bras Enferm						1	1	2,5
Rev. Colomb. Obstet. Ginecol.						1	1	2,5
Total	9	9	9	4	1	8		
%	22,5	22,5	22,5	10,0	2,5	20,0		

The data in Table 1 indicate that there is irregularity in the number of publications related to the topic of study during the period. It is known that the development of scientific research is not an easy task, however it is believed that some factors may be associated with this result, such as: difficulty for the dissemination of productions, rigor adopted by the journals to accept the goods; decrease in incentive funding agencies to conduct research related to this topic; among others.

It is also important to mention, however, that research related to sexual practices, sexual behavior in relation to STD/AIDS, the onset of early sexual activity, the risks associated with sexually transmitted diseases/HIV and other make up the National Agenda of Priorities in Health Research (ANPPS), established by the Ministry of Health, in the sub-agenda of the Health of Children and Adolescents. The ANPPS aims to meet national and

regional health needs, inducing the production of knowledge, goods and materials selectively services in strategic areas for the development of current social policies.¹²

Regarding the thesis and dissertations in the 2009-2014 period has been the record of 05 theses and dissertations 05, distributed as follows: 2009-01 dissertation; 2010-01 thesis; 2011-01 thesis and dissertations 02; 2012-01 thesis and dissertation 01; 2014-02 thesis and dissertation 01.

It can be observed that although the productions on the theme of the study time frame are irregular (the years 2012 and 2013 had the lowest quantity of production), young people continue exposing themselves to sexually transmitted infections according to data from epidemiological bulletin of the Ministry of Health. there was then a significant increase in the detection rate of AIDS cases in men aged 15-19 years, 20-24 and 60 and over the last ten years, and has expanded the rate among youth ages 15-24, an increase of 120% in those aged 15-19 and 75% among 20-24 years in 2004-2013 period.¹³

Note that among the existing STDs only HIV/AIDS, syphilis and viral hepatitis are reportable according to the Ministry of Health.¹⁴ It is believed in the existence of STD underreported, a fact that worries health authorities. Considering sexuality a subject rarely discussed in social groups, surrounded by myths and taboos, the existence of the lack of dialogue between parents and children, teachers and health professionals, contributes to the occurrence of diseases in sexual and reproductive health of young people, including manifestation of STDs.

The analysis of the results shows the presence of three journals with a greater number of publications on the theme, such as the Journal of Nursing of UERJ (07/ 17,5%), the Mining Journal of Nursing (REME) (07/17,5%) and the School of Nursing Magazine Anna Nery (06/15,0%). Note that the journals that had a higher quantity of publications are linked to higher education institutions located in southeastern Brazil.

Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Brazil, according to the register of the Ministry of Education (MEC), are distributed as follows: 446 in the Southeast region (Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo, Minas Gerais and Espírito Santo); 111 in the South (Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina and Paraná); 63 in the Midwest region (Mato Grosso do Sul, Mato Grosso and Goiás); 68 in the North (Acre, Amazonas, Amapá, Rondônia, Roraima, Tocantins and Pará) and 192 in the Northeast (Maranhão, Ceará, Rio Grande do Norte, Paraíba, Bahia, Sergipe, Pernambuco, Piauí and Alagoas).¹⁵

Whereas the southeast region has the highest incidence of some diseases, such as HIV/AIDS, this could be a factor that stimulated the scientific production over the issue in this region. However, note that the results of studies published in the journals are not always from the same geographical region of the journals, which can refute the assertion that seeks to justify the high number of publications in particular magazine and its relation to health problems that region. However, as signaled above, several variables may be associated with the publication of an article.

The distribution of the themes and approaches presented by the authors in the productions are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Thematic distribution of investigated and production approaches. VHL/ CEPEn/ABEn, 2009-2014. (N=50)

Topics studied	f	%
STD/HIV/AIDS	37	74,0
HIV	5	10,0
STD	3	6,0
Sexuality	3	6,0
Sexual Health	1	2,0
HPV	1	2,0

Production approach	f	%
Education for Health	14	28,0
Vulnerability to STD	11	22,0
Sexuality in adolescence	9	18,0
Sexual Behavior	8	16,0
Knowledge about STD	8	16,0

In Brazil no record of AIDS cases since the 80s, and as a notifiable STDs (other than syphilis and hepatitis), one can justify the interest of researchers for the theme. The epidemic, at first, focused among homo/bisexual men, injecting drug users and hemophiliacs, called "risk groups". People who did not belong to this group considered them invulnerable to infection and did not adopt measures to prevent, causing the change in the current epidemiological profile characterized by feminization, pauperization, heterosexual and internalization. Thus, the picture points to the existence of an aggregation of variables, not more specific groups or behaviors that contribute to exposure to the virus, demonstrating the vulnerability of the general population^{8,16}

Since the beginning of the epidemic until June 2014 has the record of 757 042 cases of AIDS in the country. The distribution of cases by region shows a concentration in the Southeast and South regions corresponding to 54,4% and 20,09%. Over the past decade the AIDS detection rate in men has been increasing trend in 2004 was 25,8 cases per 100.000 inhabitants increased to 26,9 in 2013, an increase of 4,3%. In the female population has seen a downward trend in the detection rate with 16.4 cases per 100.000 inhabitants in 2004, rising to 14,1 in 2013, representing a reduction of 14%.¹³

In 2013 the major route of exposure to HIV, in both sexes, among individuals older than 13 years was sexual corresponding to 94,9% among men and 97,4% among women. There is a predominance of heterosexual exposure among men, but there is a trend of increase in cases among men who have sex with men (MSM) in the last ten years, and 34,6% in 2004 and rising to 43,2% in 2013.¹³

Considering the visibility of AIDS in national and world stage, and its effects on health of individuals, the approach of this subject tends to be more valued by researchers with attentional look at the investigated group (young).

The productions of the nurses had highlighted in Education approaches to health and vulnerability to STDs as Table 2 indicates.

The appreciation of the authors of educational action is incorporated into the nursing work process as one of its dimensions.¹⁷ It becomes even more important when

related to the perspective of health promotion, inter-health education through the development of actions for the self-care and prevention of risk behaviors .¹⁸

As young people perceived as a vulnerable group to health problems, especially STD by discontinuous use of condoms, contraception, by ignorance about the means of disease prevention, and considering the actions inherent in nurses' activities, such as shares health promotion, disease prevention, guidelines for self-care, among other relevant is this finding of the research. The other approaches listed in Table 2 are in line with the topics covered by the authors.

The distribution of products depending on the type of study and the approach adopted by the researchers are shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Distribution of production depending on the type and study approach. VHL, 2009-2014. (N=50)		
Type of study	f	%
Field research	38	76,0
Action Research	5	10,0
Case studies	3	6,0
Bibliographical Research	4	8,0
Approach		
Qualitative	33	66,0
Quantitative	16	32,0
Quantitative and Qualitative	1	2,0

The findings indicate that researchers mostly used the Field Research (76.0%) to collect information. This type of research requires a more direct encounter between the researcher and the investigated group. It is necessary that the researcher has direct contact with the phenomenon and collect a set of information to be documented.¹⁹

Qualitative studies were employed by most authors (66,0%) for analysis of their findings. Qualitative research seeks to study the phenomenon itself understanding its meanings to people's lives.²⁰ Quantitative research; however, is also represented in the sample set (33,3%). This mode of study seeks to produce accurate and reliable data to enable statistical analysis is appropriate both to measure opinions, attitudes and preferences as behaviors.²¹

The decision related to the nature of the study to be carried out will depend on the subject matter and the proposed objectives for research. Has seen the trend of research in nursing prioritize qualitative studies²², however we stress that the quantitative and mixed research and intervention studies and research-based evidence, also have their space.

The construction of knowledge, therefore, results of competent human resources in the investigative process to a more qualified care. The development of the research, then, is an important strategy for strengthening nursing as a science and profession in their generalities and specialties.²³

The titration of the authors of the productions can be seen in table 4.

Table 4. Distribution of authors nurses according to the titration and professional activity. VHL, 2009-2013. (N= 132)		
Titration of the authors	f	%
Doctorate	62	47,0
Mastership	29	22,0

Nursing student	13	9,8
Specialization	11	8,3
Post-doctorate	08	6,1
Graduate	09	6,8
Professional Activity		
Nurse Teacher	77	58,3
Assistant Nurse	19	14,4
Nurse Teacher / Assistant	17	12,9
Graduating	13	9,8
Non Informed	6	4,5

Most authors have doctoral-level graduate (47,0%), and are tied to higher education institutions. It is also important to mention that currently the labor market has required training and specialized training of professionals, what drives them to seek training courses and improvement in certain areas of knowledge. In the field of health care are required specialization courses, *latu-sensu* graduate, lasting about one year. In the broad sense nursing graduate courses enable nurses to acquire the domain expertise in several areas.²³ For work in the area of education it is necessary for the professional conduct *stricto sensu* Postgraduate courses at the level of Masters (two years) and PhD (three years).

A graduate in Brazil had a big boost with the university reform, with the institutionalization of the courses from 1970.²³ The graduate programs, over the years, fulfilled their role becoming the largest center generator production Brazilian scientific and 90s had great importance in the higher education system.¹¹ in Brazil there are currently 5.689 postgraduate courses, as follows: 3.165 academic Master's, doctoral 1.945 and 579 professional master's degree. The largest quantity of graduate courses is concentrated in the Southeast, with 2.769 courses.²⁴

The master's degree in nursing emerged in the 70s and the doctorate in 1980. In mid-2008, there were 32 programs accredited by the Higher Education Personnel Training Coordination (CAPES), 14 doctoral programs, 29 master's courses academic and professional Master's degree 2.²³ In mid-2014 the outlook was 96 courses, 49 academic Master's, 32 doctoral and 15 professional master.²⁵

In teaching career as the institution to which the teacher is bound there is a plan for jobs and wages or other incentives that encourage the training of teachers. The doctoral and postdoctoral are the greatest levels of training for academic staff and the requirement that doctoral researchers, which claim funding for its research with the development agencies as the National Scientific and Technological Development Council (CNPq) and the Foundation the State Research in Rio de Janeiro (FAPERJ), among others.

Whereas health is a suitable space for the realization of scientific research and that research has recognized importance in the academic world, teachers are encouraged to research and disseminate their findings in scientific journals and events. Added to this fact, the obligation imposed by government agencies that assess the productivity of teachers and researchers who require disclosure of research in refereed journals, among others.²⁶

Annually agencies for research, such as CNPq and the Foundation for State Research, including the Rio de Janeiro (FAPERJ), request that the researchers benefit from aid for the development of studies on reports demonstrate the scientific production the period and as one of the evaluation criteria to publish articles related to work.

One can observe the presence of nursing students as authors (13/9,8%). Although it is a small quantity, shows the interest of students to participate in research and add content to your training. The integration of students in this space is embodied in scientific research activities that favor their approach to scientific research, but also are encouraged to participate in research groups. The production of articles highlights the integration of students in research activities, which is one of the valued aspects when they participate in the selection process in Program Graduate Masters and PhD.

Table 5. Distribution of authors as the number of productions, institutional affiliation and participation in research group. VHL, 2009-2014.

Quantitative of Authors	Number of Publications	Institution	Research group
01	12	UFC	Yes
01	09	UFC	Yes
01	06	UFC	Yes
02	04	UFC	Yes
		SMS/For/CE	
03	03	UFC	Yes
		UFSM	
		UERJ	
33	02	4 - UFSC	23 - Yes
		3 - UERJ	10 - No
		UFC	
		NOVAFAPI	
		PUC-GO	
		2 - UFRGS	
		FURG	
		1 - Faculty of Inhumas	
		Hospital São Paulo	
		SESAPI	
		UFCA	
		UFG	
		UFJF	
		UFMA	
		UFPA	
		UFPI	
		UFRJ	
		UNIFRA	
		UNIOESTE	
		USP	
91	01	(*)	62 - Yes
			29 - No

(*)Authors affiliated with different institutions.

Researchers have been identified that have excelled in number of products compared to other authors. Most authors are linked to the institution of higher education and belong to research groups. Note that there is a significant number of authors with 02 (33) and 01 (91) product and that they belonged to educational institutions, organs and management services.

Researchers with more productions are from the Northeast of Brazil, working in the same institution and participate in the research group. Although the southeast region of Brazil presents the greatest records of AIDS cases, teachers nurses with the largest product registration, the study time frame, do not belong to this region, with the sample set only 01 author in the region with 03 products.

You can identify the importance of the research group to increase the abilities of writers with consequent recovery of a particular object of study. In this investigation we noticed that a group of teachers from the same region and institution stands out in quantity of production related to the theme investigated. In consultation with the Lattes curriculum of teachers observed a significant number who have research projects funded by development agencies, such as CNPq and regional research Support Foundation, or have research fellowships linked to funding agencies or institutions to higher education.

It can be said, then, that higher education institutions and research groups contribute to the incorporation of knowledge and add the knowledge of teachers and researchers in affinity areas for the development of their capabilities. The teaching profession, especially in public universities, there are incentive mechanisms for the development of research being possible to reduce the workload in the classroom, make career advancement, access to financial and material resources, salary supplementation, and other incentives (MARTINS , 2002).

CONCLUSION

Study that aimed to recognizing the scientific production of nurses about the vulnerability of young people to STD showed that the issue is investigated mainly by nursing teachers with doctoral degrees, and that the authors are linked to higher education institutions and research groups.

The journals that published most about young people's vulnerability to STDs during the study time frame are located in Southeastern Brazil. In most productions discussed the theme STD/HIV/AIDS, prioritized the discussion about the importance of health education of young people and conducted studies with qualitative approach and field research.

The occurrence of STDs among young people is a public health problem that needs the attention and intervention of health professionals. The education activities for health and awareness of young people about STDs, and means for its prevention, should be encouraged by the articulation between families, educators and health professionals.

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